

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 03302 01 OF 02 191618Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 MCT-01 HA-05 USSS-00
/072 W

-----097753 191638Z /53

O R 191535Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6960
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USNATO
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 3302

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, CY
SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF PRESIDENT'S SON

REF: NICOSIA 3296

SUMMARY. PRESIDENT'S SON RETURNED HOME MORNING DEC. 18.
KIDNAPPERS WERE PARDONED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NICOSI 03302 01 OF 02 191618Z

BY PRESIDENT AND MAY REMAIN IN CYPRUS
OR DEPART. GOG PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS FOR BOY'S
RELEASE. PRESIDENT HANDLED HIMSELF
WELL IN SITUATION AND HAS
REAPED GREAT POLITICAL BENEFITS. ENL SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S STN, ACHILLEAS, RETURNED TO

FAMILY'S HOME EARLY DEC. 18, JOINED FATHER AND MOTHER IN APPEARANCES BEFORE THROG OF WELL WISHERS AND AT PRESS CONFERENCE, AND DESCRIBED HIS EXPERIENCE DURING KIDNAPPING. WHILE ON DUTY AT HIS BASE OF ASSIGNMENT SOME DISTANCE OUTSIDE NICOSIA, HE WAS PERSUADED UNDER FALSE PRETENCES BY TWO MEN TO ENTER A CAR. TWO MEN POINTED A GUN AT HIS HEAD, BLINDFOLDED HIM, AND AFTER DRIVING SOME DISTANCE FORCED HIS TO READ TAPE RECORDED MESSAGE TO HIS FATHER. ABDUCTORS THEN LED ACHILLEAS ON UPHILL FOUR-AND-ONE HALF HOUR WALK TO HIDEOUT WHERE HE WAS HELD IN CRAMPED UNDERGROUND CHANBER UNTIL TAKEN TO LIMASSOL FOR RELEASE EARLY HOURS DEC. 18. HE HAD BEEN KEPT BLINDFOLDED THROUGHOUT EPISODE AND COULD NOT IDENTIFY KIDNAPPERS, WHO, HE THOUGHT, NUMBERED THREE OR FOUR. ALTHOUGH COLD AND POORLY FED DURING HIS CAPTIVITY, HE HAD NOT BEEN OTHERWISE MISTREATED. HE HAD HEARD AND APPROVED OF HIS FATHER'S BROADCAST DEC. 17 THAT HE COULD SACRIFICE HIS SON BUT NOT HIS COUNTRY.

2. APPEARANCE BEFORE CROWD AND NEW CONFERENCE, WHICH WAS COVERED BY TELEVISION, DISPLAYED BOTH FATHER AND SON IN GOOD LIGHT. PRESIDENT THANKED PEOPLE FOR SUPPORT AND SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE HAD DECIDED, WITH UNANIMOUS NATIONAL COUNCIL AGREEMENT, TO PARDON KIDNAPPERS IN THIS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NICOSI 03302 01 OF 02 191618Z

CASE, STATE WOULD BE PITILESS IN ANY FUTURE CASES.

3. WITH EXCEPTION OF VASSOS (THE DOCTOR) PAVLIDES, IDENTITIES AND EXACT NUMBER OF KIDNAPPERS HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED. PRESS STORIES INDICATE ONLY FOUR OR FIVE PERSONS WERE INVOLVED. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED DEC. 18. THAT KIDNAPPERS HAD BEEN PARDONED AND WERE FREE TO LEAVE CYPRUS OR REMAIN.

4. FULL ACCOUNT OF HOW NEGOTIATIONS WERE CONDUCTED HAS NOT YET BEEN PUBLISHED, BUT IT IS OBVIOUS THAT GOC PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLE. GREEK AMBASSADOR DOUNTAS PARTICIPATED IN NATIONAL COUNCIL SESSIONS DEALING WITH CRISIS. PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS WAS FIRST FOREIGN DIGNITARY TO SEND MESSAGE TO KYPRIANOU AFTER KIDNAPPING OCCURRED. AN OFFICER IN GREEK ARMY, COL. KALOGEROPOULOS, WHO HAD BEEN ACTIVE IN EOKA-A STRUGGLE UNDER NAME DIAKOS, WAS BROUGHT TO CYPRUS TO HELP IN NEGOTIATIONS, AND GREEK COMMANDER OF CYPRUS NATIONAL GUARD, GENERAL KOMNENOS, WAS ACTIVE THROUGHOUT THE EPISODE. EOKA-B MEMBERS ALSO PLAYED IMPORTANT ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS AND IT APPEARS INITIAL CONTACT BETWEEN AUTHORITIES AND KID-

NAPPERS WAS MADE THROUGH THIS CHANNEL. WHILE GOC DECISIONS WERE COLLECTIVE, MININT VENIAMIN SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THE KEY OPERATIONAL OFFICER IN ESTABLISHING INITIAL CONTACT WITH EOKA LEADERS, AND THROUGHOUT.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 03302 02 OF 02 191624Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SY-05 MCT-01 HA-05 USSS-00

/072 W

-----097806 191637Z /53

O R 191535Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6961

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AOEMBASSY PARIS 1126

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USMISSION USNATO

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 NICOSIA 3302

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD5. PRESIDENT

KYPRIANOU CONDUCTED HIMSELF WELL IN C

RISIS

WHICH GAVE HIM OPPORTUNITY NOT ONLY TO PLAY FIRST

DECISIVE ROLE AS PRESIDENT BUT ALSO TO PROJECT HIMSELF

BEFORE PUBLIC IN HUMAN TERMS. GREEK CYPRIOT PEOPLE

HAVE RESPONDED TO KIDNAPPING BY DISPLAYING A GREAT

DEAL OF SYMPATHY FOR AOD UNITY WITH THE PRESIDENT AND HIS

FAMILY. AT MASS RALLY HELD MID-DAY DEC. 19 TO PROTEST

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NICOSI 03302 02 OF 02 191624Z

KIDNAPPING, KYPRIANOU CALLED FOR UNITY, CALM AND CONTINUED SUPPORT OF PEOPLE. RESULT OF KIDNAPPING, ESPECIALLY WITHDRAWAL OF CLERIDES, IS TO STRENGTHEN KYPRIANOU'S STANDING AND VIRTUALLY ASSURE HIS UNCONTESTED ELECTION IN FEBRUARY.

6. ALTHOUGH MANY MESSAGES OF SYMPATHY FROM FOREIGN LEADERS CAME IN PAST FEW DAYS, MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER WAS EARLIEST AND MOST PUBLICIZED EXCEPT FOR APPEAL FROM CARAMANLIS. CARTER MESSAGE AND PROMPT GUIDANCE PROVIDED BY DEPARTMENT ON COPING WITH KIDNAP SITUATIONS WERE GREATLY APPRECIATED BY GOC. THEY WERE AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE MOST HELPFUL IN GIVING THE LIE TO ATTEMPTS BY COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST PARTIES TO PORTRAY KIDNAPPING AS U.S.-INSPIRED PLOT. GOC FOMIN MHRISTOPHIDES, IN REVIEWING KIDNAPING VEPIRODE WITH AMBASSADOR DEC. 19, EXPRESSED HIGH APPRECIATION FOR PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE AND FOR PRACTICAL GUIDANCE WHICH, HE SAID, HAD BEEN CREDITED HANDLING THE SITUATION. EMBASSY WISHES

ADD ITS OWN WARM THANKS TO THOSE WHO PRODCCED THIS GUIDANCE.

7. DCM DILLERY IS SEEING DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION (INTELLIGENCE) SERVICE MOUROUZIDES MORNING DEC. 20 TO REVIEW DETAILS OF GOC HANDLING OF KIDNAPPING. CRAWFORD

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING, PRESIDENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NICOSI03302
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770472-0406
Format: TEL
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771240/aaaabhyr.tel
Line Count: 203
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0c120601-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 NICOSIA 3296
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 186348
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIDNAPPING OF PRESIDENT'S SON
TAGS: PINS, PGOV, CY
To: STATE USEEC
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0c120601-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009